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S/N 10/027,056

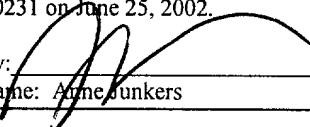
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KAPSNER ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Serial No.: 10/027,056 Group Art Unit: 3617  
Filed: DECEMBER 21, 2001 Docket No.: 11642.24USU1  
Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR HANDLING A BOAT SUNDECK

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 25, 2002.

By:   
Name: Anne Junkers

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the claims as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-12 and amend claim 13 as follows:

13. The method for mounting a sundeck to a boat, the method comprising:
  - providing a clamp structure including two clamping members;
  - maneuvering the clamp structure so that a first end of a sundeck is positioned between the clamping members;
  - closing the clamp structure to engage the sundeck;
  - lifting the sundeck with a boom and lift assembly connected to the clamp structure;
  - connecting the sundeck to a back region of the boat while the boom and lift assembly hold the clamped sundeck at a desired position relative to the boat; and
  - disengaging the clamp structure from the sundeck when the sundeck is connected in the desired position.



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Remarks

By way of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-12 have been cancelled and claim 13 has been amended. Claim 13 is currently pending in the above-identified patent application.

Please direct any inquires to the undersigned attorney at 612.336.4617.

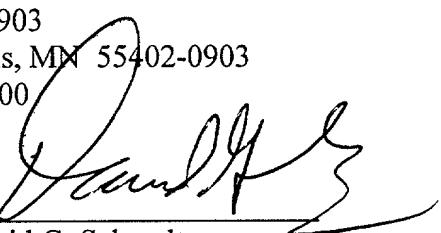


Dated:

6/25/02

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

Signed:   
Name: David G. Schmaltz  
Reg. No.: 39,828  
DGS/amj



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

In the Claims

Claims 1-12 have been cancelled and claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. The method for mounting a sundeck to a boat, the method comprising:

providing a clamp structure including [a fixed clamping member and a moveable clamping member] two clamping members;

maneuvering the clamp structure so that [the fixed and moveable clamping members are positioned on either side of] a first end of a sundeck is positioned between the clamping members;

closing the clamp structure [by causing the moveable clamping member to move closer to the fixed clamping member, thereby engaging] to engage the sundeck;

lifting the sundeck with a boom and lift assembly connected to the clamp structure;

connecting the sundeck to a back region of the boat while the boom and lift assembly hold the clamped sundeck at a desired position relative to the boat; and

disengaging the clamp structure from the sundeck when the sundeck is connected in the desired position.